

**10/563156**

00005.001284

**IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 04 JAN 2006**  
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|   |   |                                  |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| In re Application of:                   | ) |                                  |
| SHINICHI KONISHI, ET AL.                | : | Examiner: Not Yet Assigned       |
| Application No.: Not Yet Assigned       | ) |                                  |
| (National Phase of PCT Application No.  | : | Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned |
| PCT/JP/2004/010754 filed July 22, 2004) | ) |                                  |
| Filed: Concurrently herewith            | : |                                  |
| For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING              | ) |                                  |
| α,α-BIS(HYDROXYMETHYL)                  | : |                                  |
| ALKANAL                                 | ) | January 4, 2006                  |

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to action on the merits, please amend the above-identified application  
as follows: